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Message Text

SECRET

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55
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 USIE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 DRC-01 /139 W
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O 111700Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 5159
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 905
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T JIDDA 4423

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, MASS, MARR, SA, IS, US, XF
SUBJECT: CHARGE MEETS WITH PRINCE NAWWAF AND ROYAL COUNSELOR PHARAON

REF: : A) JIDDA 4408; B) JIDDA 4417; C) STATE 201391; D) JIDDA 4421

SUMMARY: ON OCTOBER 11 PRINCE NAWWAF SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF KING FAISAL, TOLA CHARGE USG MUST AMEND ITS UN POSITION WHICH NOW CALLS FOR RETURN TO CEASEFIRE LINES OF JUNE 1967; EVEN MORE IMPORTANT USG MUST SOON LAUNCH INITIATIVE CALLING FOR CEASEFIRE AND FOR ISRAELI RETURN TO BOUNDARIES SPECIFIED BY UN RESOLUTION 242. THERE NO ARAB INTENTION TO DESTROY ISRAEL, AND EVEN UNDER SUCH A SETTLEMENT CERTAIN POINTS OF CONTENTION SUCH AS SHARM AL SHAIK COULD BE SOLVED THROUGH NEGOTIATION. IF WAR ALLOWED TO DRAG ON, HOWEVER, PEACEMAKING
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WILL BECOME MORE DIFFICULT AS SCOPE OF CONFLICT WIDENS AND

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GOVERNMENTS COME UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE FROM ARAB MASSES.
JORDAN CANNOT STAY OUT OF FIGHTING AND SAG WOULD PROVIDE
FULL SUPPORT IF JORDAN ENTERS WAR. PRESENT WAR IS "BATTLE OF DESTINY"

AND SAG AND OTHER ARABS WILL SEE IT THROUGH TO SATISFACTORY
CONCLUSION WHATEVER THE COST. ANY RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL BY
USG COULD SEVERELY HARM US-ARAB RELATIONS. PRINCE'S
PRESENTATION EARNEST, SINCERE AND FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT AND WITHOUT HINT

OF THREAT TO US INTERESTS. CHARGE'S SUMMONS AND PRINCE'S COMMENTS MAY

HAVE BEEN OCCASIONED BY VISIT TO KING PREVIOUS DAY OF EGYPTIAN
DELEGATION HEADED BY PRESIDENT SADAT'S ADVISOR MAR'IY. END SUMMARY.

1. UPON ARRIVAL IN RIYADH MORNING OCT 11 IT APPARENT
FOREIGN MINISTRY CONFUSED ABOUT MY APPOINTMENT. (THEY HAD
SAID IT WOULD BE WITH KING--REF A). AT 10 A.M. I WAS
SHOWN INTO OFFICE OF PRINCE NAWWAF, A KEY COUNSELOR
AND BROTHER
TO HM, WHO EXPLAINED THAT KING EVENING BEFORE HAD DIRECTED
THAT I BE SUMMONED FROM JIDDA TO MEET WITH HIM AND
ROYAL ADVISOR DOCTOR RASHAD PHARAON. MEETING WHICH CONDUCTED IN
ARABIC LASTED ONE HOUR AND NAWWAF AND PHARAON REPEATEDLY STRESSED
THEY SPEAKING FOR KING HIMSELF AND HOPED THEIR VIEWS REACH AND BE
HEEDED BY HIGHEST U.S. CIRCLES. AT END OF MEETING, NAWWAF PRESENTED
CHARGE WITH LETTER (UNDATED) FROM KING TO PRESIDENT NIXON THAT,
HE SAID, CONTAINED ESSENCE OF KING'S VIEWS. (TRANSLATION PER REF D;
ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT).

2. SPEAKING IN EARNEST AND FRIENDLY MANNER, PRINCE STATED SAUDI ARABIA

GREATLY PRIZED ITS TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES AND
WOULD ALWAYS DO ITS BEST TO PROTECT AND FURTHER U.S. INTERESTS IN
MIDDLE EAST. FOR ITS PART, HOWEVER, U.S. SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT
FRIENDSHIP ENTAILED NEED FOR FRANK AND OPEN COMMUNICATION; KING
WISHED U.S. TO UNDERSTAND THAT CURRENT WAR CRISIS WAS OF GREAT
POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO SAUDI-U.S. RELATIONS.

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3. AS MATTER OF URGENCY, GOOD U.S.-SAUDI TIES REQUIRED U.S. TO TAKE
A CLEAR POSITION TOWARD MIDDLE EAST CRISIS THAT WOULD BE REGARDED AS
JUST AND EVENHANDED BY ARAB AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. AT U.N. NAWWAF
AND PHARAON STRESSED THAF U.S. SUPPORT FOR CEASEFIRE ALONG JUNE 1967
LINES WAS OBVIOUSLY PARTIAL TO ISRAEL AND REPRESENTED A REVERSAL
OF POSITION WE HAD TAKEN IN 1967. IF U.S. CONTINUED TO SUPPORT SUCH A

CEASEFIRE, MUCH HARM WOULD BE DONE TO U.S. CREDIBILITY AND VALUE

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OF OUR GOOD OFFICES IN ANY PEACE EFFORTS.

4. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, WAS NEED FOR USG TO MAKE AN EARLY SWIFT MOVE TO BRING AWOUT A CEASEFIRE ALONG LINES SPECIFIED IN UN RESOLUTION 242. THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ARABS PLANNING TO DESTROY

ISRAEL AND SAG ACCEPTED PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION 242. NAWWAF RECOGNIZED THERE WERE SOME DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS ON RES. 242'S APPLICATION, BUT AFFIRMED THAT AS FAR AS SAUDI ARABIA CONCERNED SUCH STICKY POINTS AS
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